The allocations are meant for the State as a whole. Inter-district and intra-region allocations, urban and rural areas are made by the State Governments. The allocation above includes 32,500 tonnes of wheat given for distribution in Revamped Public Distribution System (RPDS) areas, in addition to the quantities which were earlier allotted for such areas by the State Government. Most of the remote and inaccessible areas in the State are covered by RPDS.

Details regarding quantum of foodgrains made available in the inaccessible areas are not maintained by the Central Government. The figures of lifting of foodgrains for July and August are not yet available to the Government.

World Bank's suggestion on PDS

3519. SHRI K. K. VEERAPPAN:
SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:
SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Govenmrent has been drawn to a news item captioned "World Bank wants sugar, edible oils removed from PDS" which appeared in Pioneer dated 4th August, 1993;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof alongwith Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government have received a document from the World Bank in this regard;

(d) if so, whether Government would place the same on the Table of the house; and

(e) whether Government would solicit public opinion on this document before taking decision in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) World Bank has not made any such recommendation.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Effect of transporters strike on availability of essential commodities

3520. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) to what extent the supply of essential commodities all over the country, State-wise has been affected on recent strike by the transport operators;

(b) what steps Government have taken to meet the shortage of essential commodities and counter the adverse effect created by the strike; and

(c) what is stock position of the essential commodities in each State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b) State and Central Governments had taken necessary measures in advance to counter the likely adverse effect of the proposed strike by transport owners. This included advance stocking arrangements to move foodgrains and other essential commodities by mobilising all available vehicles of the Government and by